

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of making a carpet, the carpet comprising a tufted primary backing with a primary backing and tufts of carpet fibers penetrating a bottom surface of the primary backing and protruding from a top surface of the primary backing; a secondary backing material; and an adhesive material binding an upper surface of the secondary backing material to the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing; ~~the carpet fibers, primary backing material and secondary backing material being selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyester, acrylics, polyethylene, polyamide, nylon, wool, cotton, rayon and combinations thereof and the adhesive material consisting essentially of comprising~~ an ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer or ~~an~~ ethylene normal butyl acrylate copolymer and at least one distinct polymer selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylenes, linear low density polyethylenes, high density polyethylenes, ultra low density polyethylene, ethylene propylene copolymers, styrenic copolymers of butadiene, styrenic copolymers of acrylonitrile, styrenic copolymers of ethylene, metallocene based polyethylenes, polyester, ethylene acrylic acid copolymers, ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymers, butyl acrylate copolymers, ionomers, polyamides, and maleic anhydrides; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) extruding a heated sheet of the adhesive material; and
- b) continuously fusing together in a two roll nip the upper surface of the secondary backing and the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing with the heated sheet,

wherein the adhesive material is substantially free of polypropylene.

Claim 10 (original): A method according to claim 9 wherein the two roll nip comprises a hard roll and a soft roll.

Claim 11 (original): A method according to claim 10 wherein the soft roll has a diameter of from 4 to 20 inches and a hardness of from 5 to 100 shore D.

Claim 12 (original): A method according to claim 10 wherein the soft roll is comprised of rubber.

Claim 13 (original): A method according to claim 10 wherein the hard roll is a cooled metal chill roll capable of maintaining a temperature below 120°F.

Claim 14 (original): A method according to claim 11 wherein the two roll nip has pressure between 20 and 200 pounds per linear inch.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of using at least one of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer and ethylene normal butyl acrylate copolymer to manufacture a carpet, the carpet comprising a tufted primary backing with a primary backing and tufts of carpet fibers penetrating a bottom surface of the primary backing and protruding from a top surface of the primary backing; a secondary backing material; and an adhesive material binding an upper surface of the secondary backing material to the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing; ~~the carpet fibers, primary backing material and secondary backing material being selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyester, acrylics, polyethylene, polyamide, nylon, wool, cotton, rayon and combinations thereof and the adhesive material consisting essentially of comprising~~ an ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer or ~~an~~ ethylene normal butyl acrylate copolymer and at least one distinct polymer selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylenes, linear low density polyethylenes, high density polyethylenes, ultra low density polyethylene, ethylene-propylene copolymers, styrenic copolymers of butadiene, styrenic copolymers of acrylonitrile, styrenic copolymers of ethylene, metallocene-based polyethylenes, polyester, ethylene-acrylic acid copolymers, ethylene-methyl acrylic acid copolymers, butyl acrylate copolymers, ionomers, polyamides, and maleic anhydrides; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) extruding a heated sheet of the adhesive material; and

- b) continuously fusing together in a two roll nip the upper surface of the secondary backing and the bottom surface of the tufted primary backing with the heated sheet,
wherein the adhesive material is substantially free of polypropylene.

Claim 16 (original): A method according to claim 15 wherein the two roll nip comprises a hard roll and a soft roll.

Claim 17 (original): A method according to claim 16 wherein the soft roll has a diameter of from 4 to 20 inches and a hardness of from 5 to 100 shore D.

Claim 18 (original): A method according to claim 16 wherein the soft roll is comprised of rubber.

Claim 19 (original): A method according to claim 16 wherein the hard roll is a cooled metal chill roll capable of maintaining a temperature below 120°F.

Claim 20 (original): A method according to claim 17 wherein the two roll nip has pressure between 20 and 200 pounds per linear inch.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (new): A method according to claim 9 wherein the adhesive material is a coextruded blend of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymers and polymers selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylenes, linear low density polyethylenes, high density polyethylenes, ultra low density polyethylene, ethylene-propylene copolymers, styrenic copolymers of butadiene, styrenic copolymers of acrylonitrile, styrenic copolymers of ethylene, metallocene based polyethylenes, polyester, ethylene acrylic acid copolymers, ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymers, butyl acrylate copolymers, ionomers, polyamides, and maleic anhydrides.

Claim 23 (new): A method according to claim 15 wherein the adhesive material is a coextruded blend of ethylene methyl acrylate copolymers and polymers selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylenes, linear low density polyethylenes, high density polyethylenes, ultra low density polyethylene, ethylene-propylene copolymers, styrenic copolymers of butadiene, styrenic copolymers of acrylonitrile, styrenic copolymers of ethylene, metallocene based polyethylenes, polyester, ethylene acrylic acid copolymers, ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymers, butyl acrylate copolymers, ionomers, polyamides, and maleic anhydrides.